



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Northeast District man sentenced to 55 years in prison for murder and robbery

Washington, D.C. - A 20-year-old District of Columbia man, Steven Harrison, has been sentenced to 55 years in prison for the murder of Michol Brown in December 2007, as well as crimes committed against a surviving victim, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen, Jr. announced today.

Harrison, formerly of the 200 block of Hawaii Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C., received his sentence yesterday before Superior Court Judge Herbert B. Dixon, Jr. On March 11, 2010, after proceedings and deliberations which were interrupted by the blizzard of 2010, one dismissed juror, and one excused juror, a Superior Court jury returned a verdict of guilty on one count of conspiracy to commit robbery, two counts of attempted robbery while armed, one count of first degree felony murder while armed, one count of assault with intent to kill, four counts of possession of a firearm during a crime of violence and one count of carrying a pistol without a license against Harrison and his co-defendant, Denardo Hopkins. Harrison was additionally convicted of one count of tampering with physical evidence and one count of malicious destruction of property.

According to the government's evidence adduced at trial, on December 3, 2007, Steven Harrison conspired with Denardo Hopkins to rob Michol Brown in the 3900 block of South Capitol Street, SE. During the robbery attempt, Harrison shot one individual, who survived, and Hopkins shot Brown, fatally wounding him. After the murder of Brown, Harrison burned Brown's vehicle in the 1300 block of Congress Street, SE, in an attempt to conceal the evidence

of his guilt, but later the same night confessed his involvement to others and eventually provided a full confession to the police, but claimed self-defense.

The co-defendant, Denardo Hopkins, is scheduled to be sentenced on May 26, 2010, for his role in this heinous crime.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen commended the work of Detective Dwayne Corbett, of the Homicide Unit of the Metropolitan Police Department, and Officers John Holder, James Holder, Jay Gregory and Julius Smith of the Mobile Crime Lab Unit of the Metropolitan Police Department. He also commended victim advocate Marci Rinker, paralegals Sandra Lane and Alesha Matthews-Yette, and intelligence research specialist Lawrence Grasso of the U.S. Attorney's Office. Finally, the U.S. Attorney thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Vinet Bryant who investigated and prosecuted this case.

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